

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (amended) A method of ~~for~~ multicasting announcements in a communication network, the method comprising:

establishing an address in a memory;

forming an announcement; and

5 continuously broadcasting the announcement on the address.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising communicating the address to a device, and retrieving the announcement from the address..

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the announcement is a tone.

4. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the tone is a call-ringing tone.

5. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the tone is a call-routing tone.

6. (amended) A system of ~~for~~ providing multicasting for announcements, the system comprising:

a caller device;

a proxy coupled to the caller device;

5 a called party device, the called party device coupled to the proxy;

an announcement server, the announcement server coupled to the proxy, the

announcement server continuously broadcasting selected announcements to an address in a memory, the announcement server communicating the plurality of addresses to the proxy;

wherein the proxy communicates the address to the caller device; and

10 wherein the caller device retrieves the announcement from the address.

7. (original) The system of claim 6 wherein the announcement is a tone.

8. (original) The system of claim 7 wherein the tone is a ringing tone.

9. (original) The system of claim 1 wherein the tone is a call-routing tone.

10. (cancelled) The system of claim 7 wherein the message is an INVITE message.

11. (amended) A method of ~~for~~ multicasting announcements, the method comprising:

transmitting an INVITE message to a called party device;

receiving responsively to the INVITE message, a response message from the called party

5 device, the response message including an Real Time Protocol ~~RTP~~ destination address; and

locating the Real Time Protocol ~~RTP~~ destination address and obtaining ~~an~~ a continuously broadcasted announcement from the Real Time Protocol ~~RTP~~ destination address.

12. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the announcement is a call-

routing tone.

13. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the announcement is a ringing tone.

14. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the response message is a "100 Trying" message.

15. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the response message is a "180 Ringing" message.

16. (amended) A method of ~~for~~ multicasting announcements, the method comprising:

establishing an address;

forming a plurality of announcements;

5 continuously playing each of the plurality of announcements to a distinct address in a memory device; and

allowing multiple entities to retrieve the announcement from any of the distinct addresses.

17. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the announcement being played at a particular address is switched substantially immediately to another announcement.

18. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein each of the announcements is a tone.

19. (amended) An announcement server comprising:

means for initiating the broadcasting of announcements;

means for determining an address to broadcast the announcements;

means for communicating the announcements to a proxy, the proxy communicating the

5 address to a caller device; and

means for continuously broadcasting the announcements to the address.

20. (amended) A method of ~~for~~ determining announcements, the method comprising:

initiating the broadcasting of announcements;

determining an address to broadcast the announcements;

5 communicating the announcements to a proxy, the proxy communicating the address to a caller device; and

continuously broadcasting the announcements to the address.

21. (amended) A system of ~~for~~ multicasting announcements in a communication network, the system comprising:

means for establishing an address in a memory;

means for forming an announcement; and

5 means for continuously broadcasting the announcement on the address.

22. (original) The system of claim 21 further comprising means for communicating the address to a device, and a means for retrieving the announcement from the address.

23. (original) The system of claim 21 wherein the announcement is a tone.

24. (original) The system of claim 23 wherein the tone is a call-ringing tone.

25. (original) The system of claim 23 wherein the tone is a call-routing tone.

26. (amended) A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a processing unit to execute the following method:

establishing an address in a memory;

forming an announcement; and

5 continuously broadcasting the announcement on the address.

27. (amended) A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a processing unit to execute the following method:

initiating the broadcasting of announcements;

10 determining an address to broadcast the announcements;

communicating the announcements to a proxy, the proxy communicating the address to a caller device; and

continuously broadcasting the announcements to the address.

28. (cancelled) A computer program for processing announcements, the program comprising:

5 first code for establishing an address in a memory;

second code for forming an announcement; and

third code for broadcasting the announcement on the address.

29. (cancelled) A computer program for processing announcements, the program comprising:

10 first code for initiating the broadcasting of announcements;

second code for determining an address to broadcast the announcements;

third code for communicating the announcements to a proxy, the proxy communicating the address to a caller device; and

15 fourth code for broadcasting the announcements to the address.